

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Jun KUBOTA et al.

Serial No.: 10/516,598

Filed: December 3, 2004

Title: ULTRASONOGRAPH, METHOD FOR DISPLAYING INFORMATION ON DISTORTION OF BIOLOGICAL TISSUE IN ULTRASONIC IMAGE

Group: 3709

Examiner: Talman, James R.

Confirmation No.: 8546

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 AND 1.98

Mail Stop: AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

December 19, 2008

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find Forms PTO/SB/08A&B, listing documents cited in corresponding Japanese patent applications and copies of the documents cited therein.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted subsequent to a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified application, but prior to a Final Office Action or issuance of a Notice of Allowance, or issuance of any other action closing prosecution on the merits in the above-identified application. Accordingly, the fee of \$180.00 is enclosed herewith.

The following Statement is made under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e):

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a

counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

To the extent that the enclosed reference listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08B, "Development of 3-D Ultrasonic Tissue Elasticity CT" is not in the English language, it is respectfully submitted that Applicants are preparing an English translation and will forward the same to the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with the present submission of the enclosed documents. Accordingly, consideration of the enclosed documents, during examination of the above-identified application, is respectfully requested.

Applicants request any shortage or excess in fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, and for which no other form of payment is offered, be charged or credited to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 Case: 389.44528X00).

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: December 19, 2008